

APPLY THE SKILLS

The Declaration of Independence • *from The Crisis, Number 1*

1. **Evaluate:** Is Thomas Jefferson's argument effective? _____ Why or why not?

2. **Literary Analysis:** Why does Jefferson present a long list of grievances, or complaints, as part of his **persuasive** writing?

3. **Literary Analysis:** Paine uses **aphorisms**, brief statements that express wise observations. Use this chart to identify three aphorisms in Paine's essay. Analyze how each one contributes to his persuasive message.

Aphorism	Meaning	Purpose

4. **Reading Strategy:** Jefferson and Paine use **charged words** to stir readers' emotions. What emotional responses are associated with the words *liberty*, *justice*, *honor*, and *barbarous*?

5. **Reading Strategy:** Paine uses the word *thief* to refer to the colonists' British rulers. Would Paine have created a different response if he had used the word *supporters* instead? Explain.
